

# The 49th Mersenne Prime, GIMPS, and the LL Test

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University of Central Missouri

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# 1 Mersenne Primes

- Primes
- Mersenne Primes

## 2 History of Mersenne Primes

- Marin Mersenne
- Edouard Lucas
- Computer Era

## 3 49th Mersenne Prime

- M74207281
- News on 49th Mersenne Prime

## 4 GIMPS

- GIMPS
- GIMPS People
- GIMPS Links

## 5 Lucas-Lehmer Test and Lucas Game

- Lucas-Lehmer Test

# Prime Numbers

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# Prime Numbers

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- Prime Numbers Less Than 100:

2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41,  
43, 47, 53, 59, 61, 67, 71, 73, 79, 83, 89, 97

# Mersenne Numbers

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# Mersenne Numbers

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- Examples of Mersenne numbers are:

$$M_2 = 3 = 2^2 - 1$$

$$M_3 = 7 = 2^3 - 1$$

$$M_5 = 31 = 2^5 - 1$$

$$M_7 = 127 = 2^7 - 1$$

$$M_{11} = 2047 = 2^{11} - 1$$

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$$127 = 2^7 - 1$$

$$8191 = 2^{13} - 1$$





# Mersenne Primes

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$$7 = 2^3 - 1$$

$$31 = 2^5 - 1$$

$$127 = 2^7 - 1$$

$$8191 = 2^{13} - 1$$

- $2047 = 2^{11} - 1 = 23 \times 89$ .

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# Marin Mersenne

- Mersenne primes are named after a 17th-century French monk and mathematician



Marin Mersenne (1588-1648)

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- His list was largely incorrect, as Mersenne mistakenly included M67 and M257 (which are composite), and omitted M61, M89, and M107 (which are prime).

## Edouard Lucas



Edouard Lucas

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Edouard Lucas

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- Lucas proved in 1876 that  $M_{127}$  is indeed prime, as Mersenne claimed. This was the largest known prime number for 75 years, and the largest ever calculated by hand.
- Without finding a factor, Lucas demonstrated that  $M_{67}$  is actually composite.



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- Without speaking a word, he went to a blackboard and raised 2 to the 67th power, then subtracted one.
- On the other side of the board, he multiplied 193,707,721 times 761,838,257,287 and got the same number, then returned to his seat (to applause) without speaking.
- A correct list of all Mersenne primes in this number range was completed and rigorously verified only about three centuries after Mersenne published his list.

## Computer Era

- The search for Mersenne primes was revolutionized by the introduction of the electronic digital computer.

## Computer Era

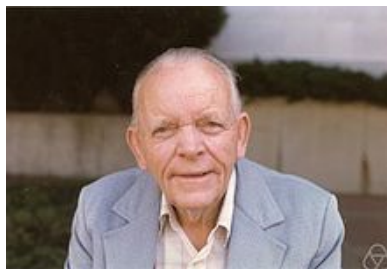
- The search for Mersenne primes was revolutionized by the introduction of the electronic digital computer.
- Landon Curt Noll and Laura Nickel, 18 year-old high school students, discovered M21701. They were both studying number theory under Dr. Lehmer. This is the 25th Mersenne prime.

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Derrick Henry Lehmer



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- The prize, finally confirmed in October 2009, is for the first known prime with at least 10 million digits.
- The prime was found on a Dell OptiPlex 745 on August 23, 2008. This is the eighth Mersenne prime discovered at UCLA.

- List of 49 Known Mersenne Primes -  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne\\_prime](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mersenne_prime)

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- Went undiscovered for almost 4 months. An email was supposed to be sent out to me and GIMPS administrators when the computer reported the prime. This email report was not sent.



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- Largest Known Prime Number
- 22,338,618 decimal digits
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- Discovered by routine data mining.

# News About 49th Mersenne Prime

- Official Press Release

<http://www.mersenne.org/M49/74207281.htm>

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# More About 49th Mersenne Prime

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- Jimmy Fallon  
<https://www.facebook.com/kshbtv/videos/10153315475526190>

# Mersenne Buttons

- M30402457 Button [cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/images/9.jpg](http://cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/images/9.jpg)

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- M74207281 Button [cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/images/0.jpg](http://cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/images/0.jpg)

# Jumping GIFS

- 3 Primes GIF <http://cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/images/6.gif>

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- UCM GIF <http://cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/images/14.gif>



# Digits of M74207281

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[cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/M74207281.txt](http://cs.ucmo.edu/~cnc8851/M74207281.txt)

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- Pronunciation of M74207281 [lcn2.github.io/merсенне-english-name/m74207281/prime-d.html](https://lcn2.github.io/merсенне-english-name/m74207281/prime-d.html)

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# The Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search

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- George Woltman founded GIMPS in January 1996 and wrote the prime testing software.
- Scott Kurowski wrote the PrimeNet server that supports GIMPS. In 1997 he founded Entropia, a distributed computing software company.

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- UCM has over 800 computers performing LL-tests on Mersenne numbers.

## GIMPS People



Woltman



Kurowski



Crandall

- The GIMPS home page can be found at:  
<http://www.mersenne.org>

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- A Mersenne Prime discussion forum can be found at:  
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## Lucas-Lehmer Test

- The **Lucas-Lehmer Test** is one way to test whether or not Mersenne numbers are Mersenne primes.

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### Definition

Let  $S_1 = 4$  and

$$S_{n+1} = S_n^2 - 2 \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$



## Lucas-Lehmer Test

- The **Lucas-Lehmer Test** is one way to test whether or not Mersenne numbers are Mersenne primes.

### Definition

Let  $S_1 = 4$  and

$$S_{n+1} = S_n^2 - 2 \text{ for } n \geq 1.$$

- The first few terms of the  $S$  sequence are:

4, 14, 194, 37634, 1416317954, 2005956546822746114,  
4023861667741036022825635656102100994, ...

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

Let  $p$  be a prime number. Then

$M_p = 2^p - 1$  is prime

if and only if

$$S_{p-1} \bmod M_p = 0.$$

## Lucas-Lehmer Test



Lucas



Lehmer

## Theorem

$M_{11} = 2^{11} - 1 = 2047$  is not prime.

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## Proof

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$S_i \bmod 2047$

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$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
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2	$(4^2 - 2) = 14 \bmod 2047 = 14$

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## Proof

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
1	4
2	$(4^2 - 2) = 14 \bmod 2047 = 14$
3	$(14^2 - 2) = 194 \bmod 2047 = 194$



## Theorem

$M_{11} = 2^{11} - 1 = 2047$  is not prime.

## Proof

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
1	4
2	$(4^2 - 2) = 14 \bmod 2047 = 14$
3	$(14^2 - 2) = 194 \bmod 2047 = 194$
4	$(194^2 - 2) = 37634 \bmod 2047 = 788$

## Theorem

$M_{11} = 2^{11} - 1 = 2047$  is not prime.

## Proof

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
1	4
2	$(4^2 - 2) = 14 \bmod 2047 = 14$
3	$(14^2 - 2) = 194 \bmod 2047 = 194$
4	$(194^2 - 2) = 37634 \bmod 2047 = 788$
5	$(788^2 - 2) = 620942 \bmod 2047 = 701$

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

# $2^{11} - 1$ is not prime

## Proof cont.

 $i$  $S_i \bmod 2047$

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

# $2^{11} - 1$ is not prime

**Proof cont.**

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
6	$(701^2 - 2) = 491399 \bmod 2047 = 119$

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

# $2^{11} - 1$ is not prime

**Proof cont.**

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
6	$(701^2 - 2) = 491399 \bmod 2047 = 119$
7	$(119^2 - 2) = 14159 \bmod 2047 = 1877$



## Lucas-Lehmer Test

 $2^{11} - 1$  is not prime

## Proof cont.

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
6	$(701^2 - 2) = 491399 \bmod 2047 = 119$
7	$(119^2 - 2) = 14159 \bmod 2047 = 1877$
8	$(1877^2 - 2) = 3523127 \bmod 2047 = 240$

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

# $2^{11} - 1$ is not prime

**Proof cont.**

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
6	$(701^2 - 2) = 491399 \bmod 2047 = 119$
7	$(119^2 - 2) = 14159 \bmod 2047 = 1877$
8	$(1877^2 - 2) = 3523127 \bmod 2047 = 240$
9	$(240^2 - 2) = 57598 \bmod 2047 = 282$

# $2^{11} - 1$ is not prime

## Proof cont.

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2047$
6	$(701^2 - 2) = 491399 \bmod 2047 = 119$
7	$(119^2 - 2) = 14159 \bmod 2047 = 1877$
8	$(1877^2 - 2) = 3523127 \bmod 2047 = 240$
9	$(240^2 - 2) = 57598 \bmod 2047 = 282$
10	$(282^2 - 2) = 79522 \bmod 2047 = 1736$



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$M_{31} = 2^{31} - 1 = 2147483647$  is prime.

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## Lucas-Lehmer Test

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2	14

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## Theorem

$M_{31} = 2^{31} - 1 = 2147483647$  is prime.

Proof.

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2^{31} - 1$
1	4
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3	194
4	37634

## Theorem

$M_{31} = 2^{31} - 1 = 2147483647$  is prime.

Proof.

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2^{31} - 1$
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## Theorem

$M_{31} = 2^{31} - 1 = 2147483647$  is prime.

Proof.

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1	4
2	14
3	194
4	37634
5	1416317954
6	669670838



## Theorem

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Proof.

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2^{31} - 1$
1	4
2	14
3	194
4	37634
5	1416317954
6	669670838
7	1937259419

## Theorem

$M_{31} = 2^{31} - 1 = 2147483647$  is prime.

Proof.

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2^{31} - 1$
1	4
2	14
3	194
4	37634
5	1416317954
6	669670838
7	1937259419
8	425413602

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

 $2^{31} - 1$  is prime

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2^{31} - 1$
9	842014276
10	12692426
11	2044502122
12	1119438707
13	1190075270
14	1450757861
15	877666528
16	630853853
17	940321271
18	512995887
19	692931217

## Lucas-Lehmer Test

 $2^{31} - 1$  is prime

$i$	$S_i \bmod 2^{31} - 1$
20	1883625615
21	1992425718
22	721929267
23	27220594
24	1570086542
25	1676390412

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20	1883625615
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23	27220594
24	1570086542
25	1676390412
26	1159251674
27	211987665
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27	211987665
28	1181536708
29	65536



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20	1883625615
21	1992425718
22	721929267
23	27220594
24	1570086542
25	1676390412
26	1159251674
27	211987665
28	1181536708
29	65536
30	0

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- Based on some theorems Lucas discovered and properties of Fibonacci numbers, his hand calculations boiled down to showing that if  $r_1 = 3$ , and

$$r_{k+1} = r_k^2 - 2,$$

then if

$$r_{126} \equiv 0 \pmod{M127}$$

then M127 is prime.

- Therefore, Lucas had to perform about 120 squaring operations and about 120 divide operations on 39 digit numbers.

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- To see how Lucas did this, we will reduce the problem.
- We will show that  $M_7 = 2^7 - 1 = 127$  is prime.
- For our reduced problem, we will play Lucas' game on a  $7 \times 7$  chessboard.



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- Therefore,  $M_7$  is prime.

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- The  $7 \times 7$  chessboard will store the calculations in base 2 (modulo 127). Columns on the board will represent powers of 2 and the rows will store the product of a single base 2 digit in  $r_k$  times the base 2 number  $r_k$ . Lucas used a pawn or no pawn to represent a 1 or 0 on the board, respectively.

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- Initially, the top row will contain  $r_1 = 3$ .

- If the top row contained  $r_k$ , Lucas would square  $r_k$  with the following moves.

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- If the top row contained  $r_k$ , Lucas would square  $r_k$  with the following moves.
- He would do standard multiplication to populate the board with pawns. Each row corresponds to putting a shift of the top row in the row or having no pawns in the row, depending on whether there is a pawn in the corresponding column of the top row or not. Because Lucas is doing the calculations modulo 127, the columns wrap around the chessboard.

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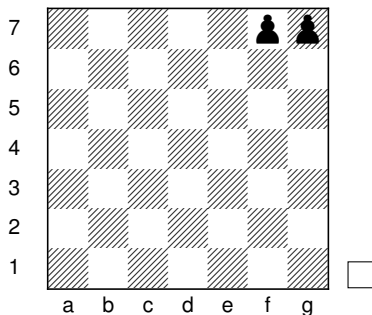
○○○○○○○○

- He would then subtract 2 (once), usually by taking a pawn away from Column f. In the game, two pawns in the same column would be equivalent to removing those two pawns and replacing them by one pawn in the next column to the left. The column to the left of the left-most column is the right-most column.

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- Lucas kept this game going until he didn't have two pawns in any column. Then he would slide each pawn in a column to the top row. This would be his  $r_{k+1}$ .



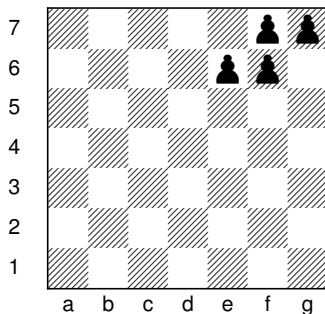
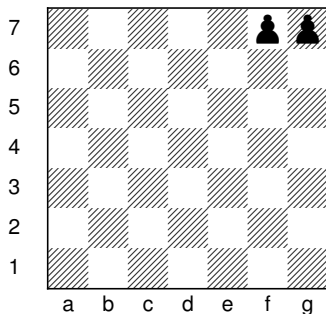
Lucas started the game with  $r_1 = 3$ .  
On the chessboard, that would be:





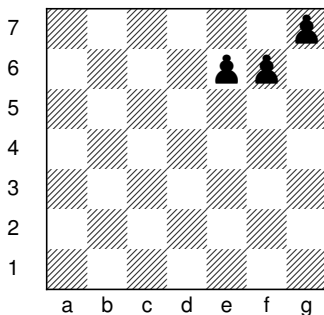
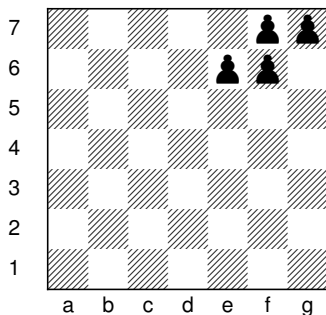


Squaring  $r_1 = 3$  would result in the following chessboard.



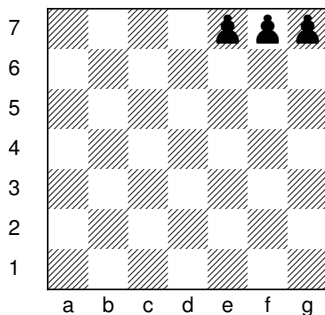
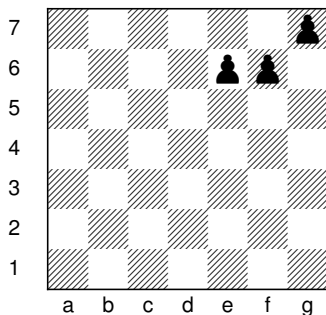


We can subtract 2 by removing a pawn from Column f. That would result in the following chessboard.



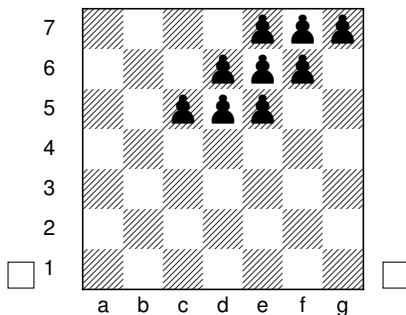
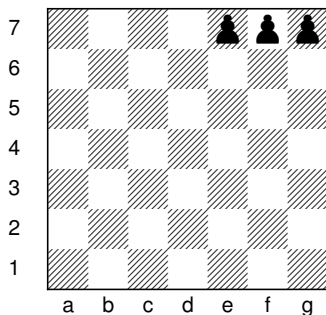


Pushing all the pawns to the top row would result in the following chessboard which is  $r_2 = 7$ .



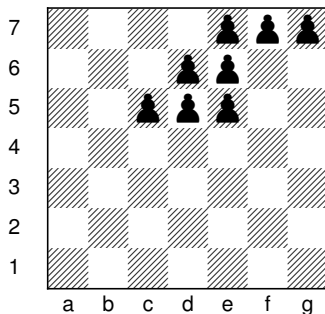
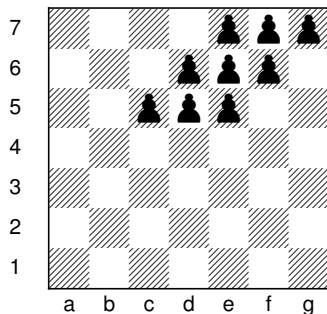


Now we need to square  $r_2 = 7$ . This would result in the following chessboard.



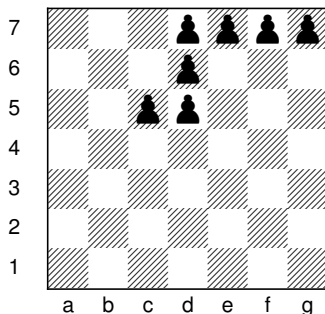
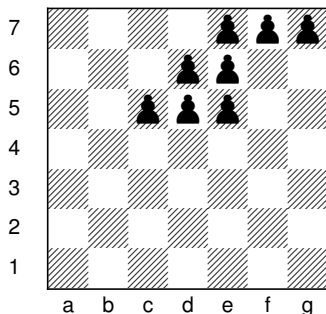


Subtracting 2 would result in the following chessboard.

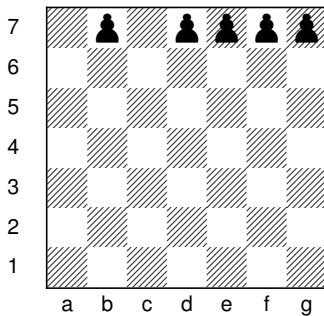
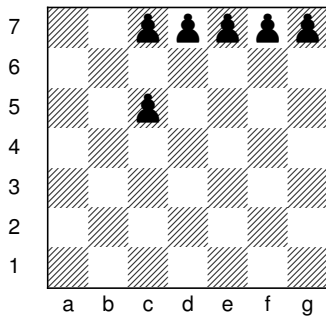




We now do the game moves where we replace two pawns in a column by one pawn in the column to the left. Here are the steps in the game.



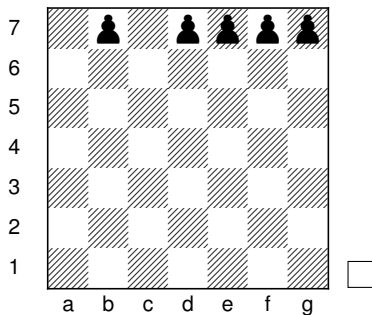






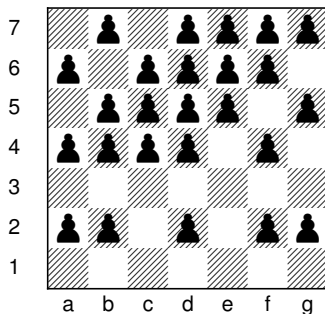
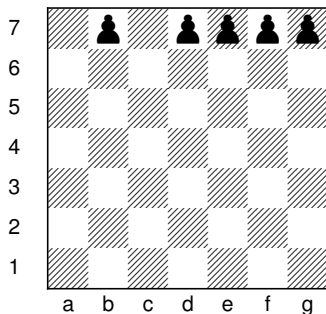


The final chessboard with  $r_3 = 47$  would be the following.





Squaring  $r_3 = 47$ , we obtain the following chessboard.



Continuing this game, we have  $r_4 = 48$ ,  $r_5 = 16$ , and  $r_6 = 0$ .

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Therefore  $M_7 = 2^7 - 1 = 127$  is a Mersenne prime.

## 1 Mersenne Primes

- Primes
- Mersenne Primes

## 2 History of Mersenne Primes

- Marin Mersenne
- Edouard Lucas
- Computer Era

## 3 49th Mersenne Prime

- M74207281
- News on 49th Mersenne Prime

## 4 GIMPS

- GIMPS
- GIMPS People
- GIMPS Links

## 5 Lucas-Lehmer Test and Lucas Game

- Lucas-Lehmer Test

# Top 10

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4. To learn more about the distribution of Mersenne primes.

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2. To produce much favorable press for UCM and demonstrate that the University of Central Missouri is a first-class research and teaching institution.
1. To win the \$150,000 offered by the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) for the discovery of the first one-hundred million digit prime number. EFF's motivation is to encourage research in computational number theory related to large primes.



# Email Address and Talk URL

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